

Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board
January 12, 2011

Present:

Christina Bollo, Mark Bandy, Mark Landreneau, Kristen Lohse, Ben Smith, Jon Morgan, Seth Schromen-Wawrin, Jen Calleja, Greg Brey

Public Comment:

None

Master Plan Work Plan (Barbara Gray and Kristin Simpson, SDOT):

Barbara and Kristin presented on 10 major deliverables for 2011. The work plan will go to Mayor McGinn Jan. 25 and City Council Feb. 13.

1) Center City Placemaking

McGraw Streetcar Plaza – should be done early Feb, working on festival street legislation, secured bike parking will be added this year. SDOT also has money to seek other places for secured bike parking e.g. King St. Station, Capitol Hill, U. District.

Bell St. Park – starts construction this year.

Green Alleys – will be working with UW et al. Planning to conduct a Health Impact Assessment to explore the space.

Center City Framework – DPD is leading this project. It should incorporate the Central Waterfront Plan that is also being done this year. They were unsure what the relationship between SDOT and DPD would be.

Darby Watson to brief SPAB next month on King St. hub. SPD to come discuss ped safety campaign.

Lake to Bay Trail – planning to incorporate wayfinding, art, and infrastructure along route. Includes Thomas Street.

2) Walkable Zone Communications & Policy

Need more than just brochures, need multiple pieces including education and training. A-board sign permitting program starting this year. Will be financially self-sustaining. Many A-boards are already illegal under code. Mark B. suggests small, scannable RFID tags.

3) Right of Way Improvement Manual updates

unresolved policy conflicts from last update will need 2011 to be resolved for updates to happen 2012.

4) Land Use Code Changes

Will always follow neighborhood plan updates. Incentives for through-block connections/breaking up blocks longer than 600 feet.

5) Education & Encouragement

have gotten \$700,000 in grants so far, getting new SDOT staffer, ST partnership, Wayfinding.

6) Ped Lighting Plan

Will finish identifying gaps 1st quarter. Adding data and criteria, e.g. crime rates. Will have to figure out public outreach.

7) Policy & Plan Development

Mobile food vending going to Council, festival street legislation being developed. Large CIP projects will get prioritized with PMP data. Accessible signal policy completed 2011.

8) Sustainable Cities Initiative

Mayor wants neighborhood comp. plans better integrated with Climate Action Plan. Coordinating infrastructure planning. SDOT/SPU coordination on Ballard rain gardens. Walk Bike Ride pilot projects, likely King St. Station.

9) Deliver PMP Infrastructure

Building about 10 blocks of new sidewalk this year. About 50 crossing improvements (upgrade signs and markings, major civil improvements like landings at all curb ramps), 25 countdown signals, about 280 curb ramps installed/upgraded, several lighting projects, 10 school zone signage improvements, handful of SRTS projects. Kristen S. reviewed NSF projects with Board. Narrowing down sidewalk improvement list from 13 to 10. Those not done 2011 will be done 2012.

10) Evaluation and Performance Monitoring

First annual report, should get great data from national bike/ped count, will try to update PMP data with 2010 census data.

Clear zone communication: social media, Travel Right guide?, Greenwood sidewalk proponents, good neighbor piece—how communication with neighborhood business districts, create shimming opportunity in Neighborhood Matching Fund? (NMF requires volunteer labor match for city grants), SDOT blog? SDOT blogger contribute pieces to neighborhood blogs/news sites?, more frequent editorial Board meetings? Work with Home Depot re: classes? Neighborhood hardware stores? WBR staffer will help coordinate this under Transportation Demand Management.

→ SPAB letter of endorsement of work plan to Rasmussen needed

Walk Bike Ride Update (Rebecca Deehr, Mayor's Office):

Becca Deehr not yet ready to present on WBR, not here tonight.

Safe Routes to Schools (Brian Dougherty, SDOT):

List of projects completed recently from SRTS funding:

- Catherine Blaine: Curb bulb 32nd W & W Raye.

- Cleveland HS: widened sidewalk on Swift Ave. S. where students were walking very close to I-5
- Concord ES: 7th & S. Trenton had huge radius since 60s, tightened up intersection from 100 foot to 30 foot crossing, now all-way stop w/marked crosswalks
- Kimball ES: students designed stamps for concrete sidewalk panels and banners now hung on 23rd Ave. S, flashing beacons also installed
- North Beach ES: Fast cars when students crossing, speed cushions installed on 24th Ave. NW.
- New sidewalk and marked crosswalk on NW 90th St.
- John Muir ES: school got WSDOT grant, traffic calming including chicane and traffic circle, removed parking restrictions one side of street on S. Horton St.
- Sacagawea ES: Curb ramps and sidewalk on 20th Ave. NE
- Roxhill ES: SW Barton St, corner had wide radius and encroaching radius. Got property owner to cut back hedge and installed curb bulb.
- Dearborn Park ES: sidewalk extension and crosswalk relocation

Schools also get mini-grants such as Cascade Bicycle Club bike education, school patrol equipment, incentives, walking school buses, etc.

For 2011, 5 SRTS projects are planned (West Seattle ES, Van Asselt ES, Concord ES, Green Lake ES and Coe ES). Four schools will get better school signs that include flashing beacons (Coe ES, Beacon Hill ES, Mercer MS, Garfield HS). This is the first time that middle and high schools are selected. Question about lunchtime beacons for high schools with open lunch. Brian will look into the possibility. Members mentioned that they want all schools on arterials to have flashing beacons. Brian noted that Seattle has some flashing beacons at private schools.

Round Robin:

Kristen- working on Mercer West at work, looking for improvements at Queen Anne Ave. & Roy St, other intersections west/downhill on Mercer.

Ben- mixed feelings on King St. Station and if it will turn out like the Westlake hub where few modes intersect conveniently.

Jon- reporting drainage problems, Mike O'Brien's office interested in having SPU create webform to report, found contact & drafting email on Olive & Denny, thinks we could ban some rights on red, City Light streetlight repair time up to 1 month, new contact person, reminding people to shovel when snows, John Stewart asks what 10 foot white poles are at 34th/Fremont and 23rd/Union—no ideas

Mark B- frustrated at ADA interpretations on stairs as ped shortcut, "little H" likely gone from south Viaduct replacement as some at WSDOT deemed it discriminatory to provide non-ADA shortcut. He is taking on new responsibilities over traffic control plans—introduced to project managers and said bike & ped issues very important

Christina- reviewing applications for new SPAB members, interviews late Jan/early Feb. Thirty-nine applications for 4 positions. She also did a Lighthouse visual impairment walk at Mt. Baker Link station. Was very disorienting. Thought could make good field trip.

Greg- went to 15th Ave. NE open house before Dec. meeting, now under construction, cross daily so will monitor, may run mock Complete Street design charette for Get Engaged members

Jen- moved to West Seattle near Roxbury St—less walkable, fewer bus routes, shops, bikes on 34th Ave. SW b/c can't ride 35th. Work at High Point, building community/bringing people together → putting more benches around neighborhood b/c want more people out on streets